

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01     SECTO 12040 092053Z  
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W  
-----127781 092101Z /70  
O 092041Z DEC 77 ZFF4  
FM USDEL SECRETARY IN CAIRO  
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTO 12040

NODIS

E.O. 11652:GDS  
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)  
SUBJECT: LETTER TO FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO FROM  
SECRETARY VANCE

1. AMBASSADOR TOON SHOULD DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER FROM  
THE SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO. MARSHALL  
SHULMAN SHOULD MAKE A COPY AVAILABLE TO DOBRYNIN.

BEGIN TEXT:

"DEAR MR. FOREIGN MINISTER:

- I HAVE NOW HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE A FULL  
REPORT FROM UNDER SECRETARY HABIB OF HIS CONVERSATIONS  
WITH YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES. I FELT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL  
IF I WERE TO SEND YOU PROMPTLY SOME PERSONAL  
OBSERVATIONS.

- DESPITE OUR STRONG COMMON INTEREST IN MOVING THE  
SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST TOWARD A COMPREHENSIVE  
SETTLEMENT AND THE PROGRESS WE HAVE BEEN MAKING IN THAT  
DIRECTION, I AM CONCERNED THAT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS MAY  
HAVE THE EFFECT OF WIDENING SOME DIVERGENCIES IN OUR  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02     SECTO 12040 092053Z

RESPECTIVE POSITIONS, WITH THE RESULT THAT OUR COMMON  
EFFORT MAY BE WEAKENED. TO THE EXTENT THAT THESE  
DIVERGENCIES RESULT FROM DIFFERENT PERCEPTIONS AND CAN  
BE MODERATED BY CLARIFICATIONS OF POINTS RAISED IN YOUR  
DISCUSSIONS WITH HABIB, I HOPE THIS COMMUNICATION FROM  
ME CAN BE HELPFUL.

- FIRST OF ALL, YOU SHOULD HAVE NO MISCONCEPTION ABOUT WHERE THE INITIATIVE FOR SADAT'S TRIP TO JERUSALEM ORIGINATED. WE DID NOT KNOW IN ADVANCE THAT HE WOULD MAKE THIS PROPOSAL. WITH REGARD TO THE PLAN FOR THE CAIRO MEETING, WE WERE INFORMED THE NIGHT BEFORE, AND SUGGESTED THAT TIME BE ALLOWED FOR ADEQUATE CONSULTATION WITH THE VARIOUS PARTIES. ONCE THE PROPOSAL WAS MADE, WE BELIEVED THAT THIS INITIATIVE COULD HAVE PRODUCTIVE RESULTS AND THAT IT WAS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT NEITHER OF THE CO-CHAIRMEN APPEAR TO BE IN THE POSITION OF OBSTRUCTING AN EFFORT ON THE PART OF EGYPT AND ISRAEL TO NARROW THEIR DIFFERENCES AND TO CREATE A CLIMATE MORE PROPITIOUS FOR NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO A COMPREHENSIVE PEACE SETTLEMENT. BOTH THE EGYPTIANS AND THE ISRAELIS HAVE MADE IT CLEAR TO US THAT THEY SEE THEIR PRESENT EFFORTS AS LEADING TO A GENEVA CONFERENCE AND A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT.

- IT IS MY INTENTION TO CONSULT WITH THE PARTIES INVOLVED DURING MY TRIP TO THE AREA, AND TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ASSIST AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO SHAPE THE CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS SO THAT THEY WILL FEED PRODUCTIVELY INTO A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT AT GENEVA. I KNOW YOU APPRECIATE FULLY THAT THE UTMOST RESTRAINT AND DELICACY ARE REQUIRED AT THIS STAGE, WHICH OFFERS SO WIDE A RANGE OF UNPREDICTABLE POSSIBILITIES, AND I TRUST YOU WILL DO ALL THAT IS WITHIN YOUR POWER TO PREVENT THE POLARIZATION AND RECRIM-  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03     SECTO 12040 092053Z

INATIONS WHICH COULD MAKE CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRESS MORE DIFFICULT. IT IS IN THIS CONTEXT THAT I WAS PARTICULARLY DISAPPOINTED AND AS THE FULL TEXT OF MY PRESS CONFERENCE MADE CLEAR, WE SEE THE CAIRO MEETING AS A CONFERENCE TO PREPARE FOR COMPREHENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS AT GENEVA. WE ARE READY TO PROCEED THERE AS SOON AS THE PROCEDURAL OBSTACLES BLOCKING A RECONVENING CAN BE OVERCOME. IN THE MEANTIME, I HOPE YOU WILL AGREE THAT IT CANNOT SERVE OUR COMMON PURPOSE IN THE MIDDLE EAST OR ELSEWHERE FOR THE MOTIVES OF THE UNITED STATES TO BE MISSTATED.

- I WILL INFORM YOU ABOUT THE RESULTS OF MY PRESENT TRIP AND DISCUSS WITH YOU WHAT FURTHER STEPS MIGHT THEN BE TAKEN. RESPECTFULLY, CYRUS VANCE." END TEXT. VANCE

SECRET

NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECTO, TEXT, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, CAT-B  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Message ID:** 9eaa9407-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NODS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 293418  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LETTER TO FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO FROM SECRETARY VANCE  
**TAGS:** OVIP, PSDC, PDEV, US, UR, XF, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (GROMYKO, ANDREY ANDREYEVICH)  
**To:** STATE MOSCOW  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009